

Add herbs to enrich your compost

Herb	What it provides	Other benefits
Comfrey	nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, calcium	
Nettle	nitrogen, iron	
Yarrow	copper, potassium, phosphates, nitrates	speeds up the composting process
Tansy	potassium	speeds up the composting process
Dandelion	potassium, iron, copper	
Chamomile	calcium	balances pH
Gypsum	sulphur, calcium	balances pH Especially beneficial for use on clay soils.

How to make 14-day compost

Ingredients – branches, green weeds, manure, comfrey leaves, herbs, sawdust, old hay, paper.

- branches / woody layer for aeration
- alternate layers of soft plant matter with woody material
- layer animal manure
- 1 dozen comfrey leaves
- A sprinkle of herbs
- Cover with dry grass clippings, old (untreated) sawdust, paper.

Moisten, leave for 3 days, turn and repeat 3 times. This compost will heat up to 70°C.

Manure-free compost

- Three-quarters of the compost needs to be green, succulent growth, such as lawn clippings, freshly dug weeds, or kitchen waste.
- Use a variety of different materials to ensure a high level of trace elements.
- Mix dry materials thoroughly into the heap by turning regularly.
- Little or no watering is needed initially as the green material will give off moisture.